

PU3571US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: LENHARD et al.

Serial No.: 09/441,493

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed; November 17, 1999

Examiner: Zeman, Robert

Title: *INFRARED THERMOGRAPHY*Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This communication is submitted as an amendment in the above referenced patent application. Claims 9-16 are pending.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9-12.

Please amend claims 13 and 14 as shown below and in attached Appendix A entitled "Marked Version Showing Changes."

13. (Amended) A method of determining the temperature of an internal tissue or organ of a mammal, comprising the steps of surgical removal of a portion of the mammal skin sufficient to expose the internal tissue or organ, the temperature of which is to be determined, and replacement thereof with an infrared-invisible polymer of equal size of said removed skin and measuring the temperature of the internal tissue or organ using infrared thermography.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the method is used to measure the temperature before and after administration of a test agent to said mammal, and wherein a difference in temperature, that is observed following administration of said test agent, indicates that said test agent had a thermodynamic effect on the tissue or organ.